

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY, OCT. 11, 1850.

The Impending Danger—A Practical Proposition.
Let us call the attention of our readers for a short time to the fifth article of the present constitution of the United States, which runs thus:

"The Congress, whenever two-thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this constitution, or, on the application of the Legislatures of two-thirds of the several States, shall call a convention for proposing amendments, which, in either case, shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of this constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three-fourths of the several States, or by conventions in three-fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by the Congress: Provided, That no amendment which may be made prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight, shall in any manner affect the first and fourth clauses in the ninth section of the first article; and that no State, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate."

It will be seen that this same fifth article, in prescribing the mode of amending the constitution, invests two-thirds of the members of both houses with the power of proposing any and all amendments or changes in the constitution whatsoever, with only the exceptions provided against in the concluding clauses of the article, viz: that the importation of negroes shall not be prohibited before 1808—that direct taxes shall be laid in proportion to federal numbers—and that no State, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate. With these exceptions, two-thirds of the members of both houses have a right to propose, and three-fourths of the States to ratify, any amendments whatsoever, even to the establishment of a monarchy or the abolition of slavery. The only restrictions upon this unlimited power of amendment are, as we have already observed, the provisions in regard to direct taxes and Senatorial suffrage. The limitation in regard to the importation of slaves, expired more than forty years ago.

There are very few indeed, even at the North, who will dare openly to claim any right of interference with the institution of slavery in the States. The time has not yet come for that. Every man, even at the North, who makes any pretensions to common sense, and does not desire to be looked upon as crazy, or a fanatic, is willing to admit that such interference would be manifestly unconstitutional. But what is unconstitutional to-day, may be constitutional to-morrow. The number of slave States is lessening, and the number of non-slaveholding States increasing every session of Congress, and it would require no great effort of prescience to foresee the time when, as events now progress, the number of members from non-slaveholding States will double that from slaveholding States. The Northern, or non-slaveholding section will then have the power, under the 5th article of the Constitution, to propose the abolition of slavery as an amendment to the Constitution. To ratify such an amendment would require concurrence of the Legislatures of three-fourths of the States. That this consideration is calculated to exert an influence upon the admission of States is too plain a proposition to need illustration. The anti-slavery influence predominating in Congress, would have a direct interest in multiplying the number of free States admitted; and at the same time in throwing obstacles in the way of slave States seeking admission. This is the most direct danger to be apprehended from the multiplication of non-slaveholding States. Having once obtained a decided preponderance, and keeping in view an amendment of the Constitution, such as we have already alluded to, that preponderance may be exerted so as to increase itself by the multiplication of free States to such an extent as to give validity to any anti-slavery amendment which they might choose to embody in the Constitution; for this article, as we have already said, imposes no sort of restriction with the exception of the cases specified.

The remedy for this state of things, and the best means of guarding against its ultimate consequences is a specific amendment of the Constitution, placing the subject of slavery and the slave trade between the States upon the same footing with Senatorial representation, and providing that no law of Congress, nor any amendment of the Constitution shall be made abolishing slavery, or in any way interfering with the subject while even one State chooses to retain it. This would take away from the free soilers the hope of ultimately obtaining control of the subject through the Constitution, or any amendment of it; and would, in a great measure, deprive them of all motive for tampering and meddling with it in the District of Columbia and the Territories, in so far as it is well known that the attempt made to exclude slavery from the Territories are only so many blows indirectly aimed at it in the States. Besides, there would be no such motive for the multiplication of free soil States since no preponderance in numbers could give them control of the subject.

As matters now stand, we feel confident that this amendment could be carried through. It is plainly reasonable, and what every northern man will at least pretend to assent to, and it should be pressed forward immediately. A proposition nearly to the same effect was introduced by Mr. VENABLE, during the late session of Congress, but in the noise and confusion of the struggle, it was passed over. After a few years, it is very doubtful whether or not such a thing could be so easily done. "Strike while the iron is hot."

In addition to the motives for immediate action already presented, there is another founded upon considerations of present policy. The time is rapidly approaching when the next Presidential election will form the all-absorbing topic in political circles, and when the support of the South will be eagerly sought after and bid for. If, under such circumstances, the South will only unite in demanding such amendment as the price of its support, it will instantly be conceded, and one of the greatest dangers to our country be thereby removed.

Our Representative.
Since the publication of our last number, we have enjoyed the pleasure of meeting with our worthy representative from this District, Mr. ASKE, who has returned to our midst, after the very protracted session of Congress which has just closed. Mr. ASKE looks as well as the very warmest of his large circle of friends could wish him; a circle which, however large before, has been rendered still larger by the manner in which he has discharged his official duties, and the uniform courtesy and attention which has characterized his intercourse with his constituents, in all cases in which their business with the departments, or other causes, may have led him to Washington City. While attending most assiduously to the duties incumbent upon him as a Southern man and representative, he was equally attentive to the interests of his immediate constituency, as all whose business may have required his services can bear witness.

BOUNTY LAND BILL.—Mr. ASKE requests us to state, that having already received many applications upon the subject of the Bounty Land Bill, recently passed by Congress, he has concluded to attend to all applications for warrants under this law, provided the necessary papers be forwarded to him in Washington City before the 4th of March next. By this means claimants will obtain their warrants free of any trouble or expense at Washington. The papers in this district will please copy for the benefit of those interested.

Texas.
The law passed by the late session of Congress in regard to the boundaries of Texas, is in the form of propositions submitted to the State of Texas, conditional upon their acceptance by the Legislature of that State, on or before the first day of December next. The words of the bill are: "Provided, That said agreement by the said General Assembly shall be given on or before the first day of December, 1850."

The Legislature of Texas last month, in extraordinary session, passed a bill requiring the Governor to submit any proposition which the General Government might make to Texas to the popular vote. This bill the Governor vetoed, because, in his opinion, it trench upon his prerogative as a co-ordinate branch of the government, both in ordering him to perform a duty which should be left to his own judgment, and also in requiring him, by another provision of the bill, to call the Legislature together upon a certain contingency. His reasons, however, are stated at large in the veto message, which we publish. From more recent advice, however, it would appear that Gov. BELL has resolved, of his own accord, to adopt a course which he would not allow the Legislature to dictate to him, namely: to submit the matter to the popular vote. But whatever the decision of the people may be, the law of Congress requires that the agreement shall be embodied in an act of the Legislature. We have not at hand the constitution of Texas, and are not certain as to the time when the Texas Legislature will meet in regular session, but we believe it will be on the third Monday of November, which will be the 18th. We are not positive. Should the law be so construed as to require the acceptance of Texas to be notified to the Federal authorities on or before the first of December, it will be impossible for its conditions to be complied with; and even should the passage of a bill by the Legislature before that time be considered sufficient, it is hardly probable that such bill will be passed in time. It is more than likely that the course which Texas will pursue will be the submission of a counter proposition to the United States, proposing nearly the same boundaries as those indicated by the Congressional proposition, with this exception, that the thirty-fourth degree of North latitude will be substituted for the thirty-second, as the Southern boundary of New Mexico. The difference which this will make will be comparatively trifling, as regards the extent of territory; only about fifteen thousand square miles; but it is considered important by Texas, as it will give her a natural boundary, and remove the borders of a free State so much the further. There is little doubt that Congress will accede to this proposition, if made. It may be, though, that the propositions of the General Government may yet be accepted by Texas in time.

California and Texas.
The steamship Alabama arrived at New Orleans on the 3d instant, from Chagres, bringing one hundred and ten passengers, and San Francisco dates to the first of September. Peace has been restored in Sacramento City, leaving the inference, of course, that the report of the city having been burned down was erroneous.

Col. WALTON, the special government messenger to Texas had returned. He says that Gov. BELL intends issuing a proclamation, submitting to the popular vote the proposition submitted to Texas, as soon as Col. LEVINS arrives with the official news of the passage of the boundary bill. The vote will be taken about the first of November. We look upon this as questionable.

Our Book Table.
We are indebted to the publishers, Messrs. LINDSAY & BLACKISTON, Philadelphia, for a very neat copy of Judge HALIBURTON'S inimitable Yankee Stories. It is unnecessary to say a word more in favor of "SAM SLICK."

We have also received from the same publishers, "The Medical Examiner," for October, containing articles which no doubt possess much value to the medical profession. We notice, among other articles, an account of a surgical case from San Francisco. Rather a strange place from which to receive a contribution to medical science.

"The Democratic Review" is also on hand, containing many valuable articles, full of good sense and sterling ability. It has also a continuation of "Lally's Campaign," which maintains its graphic interest.

Lastly, GODEY, for November, is along, and the plates are excellent—at least one of them, "The Lord's Prayer," is so—of the others we cannot speak, not having had time to look at them, or to read a word of the contents of the number.

THE DEAF MUTE, published at the North Carolina Institute for the Deaf and Dumb, commenced its second volume on the 6th instant, with a new and beautiful title page. The MUTE now appears in folio instead of quarto form, is very neatly printed, and well conducted by Wm. D. COOK, who has also the superintendence of the Institution.

Terrible Disaster at Sea—Twenty-four Lives Lost.
On the morning of the 4th inst., the steamship Southerner, bound from Charleston to New York, had a collision with the barque Isaac Mead, bound from New York to Savannah, Geo., by which the latter vessel was sunk, and twenty-four persons drowned. The following account is given of the collision in the Herald of Saturday last, the 5th inst.:

At 2 o'clock yesterday morning, the 4th inst., in lat. 33° 30', sounded in twenty-two fathoms water; relieved the wheel; in ten minutes after made a sail on the larboard bow; put the helm hard a port; stopped the engine as soon as possible, and backed strong, when we came in contact; backed clear; stopped the engine, when the vessel went down under our bow, which was less than five minutes from the time of the collision. Hearing the cries of distress in the sea, through the exertions of the crew and passengers, we were able to man three of Francis's life boats, and saved seven of the crew and two passengers, out of thirty three in all.

When we gave up all hopes of finding any more, we turned our attention to our own damage, and found that we had carried away our cutter, boat, stay, and flying jibboom, with the head rails, and had some bad scratches on the bow.

Passengers saved—E. A. Bradley; W. H. Stanton. Passengers lost—Mrs. Catharine Bradley, of Connecticut; Miss Harriet Green; Mrs. Amerit Barnes, of Macon, Ga.; Mrs. Barnard, of Wilmington Island, Ga.; Miss C. Barnard, do.; Master John Barstow, do.; Dr. Maginnis, lady and child, of Savannah; H. Grant, of Connecticut; Mr. Cornis, of do.; two Messrs. Adams, of London; J. H. Brown, the captain's son. Officers and crew saved—Capt. R. T. Brown; J. D. Hildreth, 1st mate; C. Smith, 2d do.; J. Franklin, steward; A. McMin, seaman; H. Bailey, do.; J. Brown, do.

Crew lost—John Smith, Mass.; Francis Butler, Savannah, Ga.; James Draper, Dunganon, Ireland; Robert Moore, England; Richard —, England; Cook, name unknown; James McGowan, 2d do., N. York; Mrs. Brady, stewardess.

The first choice of seats for JENNY LIND'S first Concert in Providence, R. I., was sold on the 4th instant for \$650. Col. Ross, of the Providence and Worcester Express Company, was the purchaser. We do not believe that these extravagant prices are bona fide. There is little doubt that BARNUM is at the bottom of the whole affair, which is simply a scheme to attract attention, and excite enthusiasm. BARNUM is some.

THE LATEST COMPLIMENT.—At the Westborough (Mass.) Cattle Show, last week, was exhibited a Holstein cow called "Jenny Lind," with a calf by her side named "Barnum."

Later from Europe—Arrival of the Cambria.

The British Steamship Cambria, arrived at Halifax on the morning of the 3d inst. She brings fifty passengers, and dates from Liverpool to the 21st, and London to the 20th ult. Her news is of no great importance. We subjoin all that appears of any interest.

It is stated upon the authority of a Paris correspondent of the London Herald, that arrangements are on foot between Spain on the one hand, and England and Holland on the other, by which Spain, on condition of having Cuba guaranteed to her by the joint action of those powers, engages to pay the debt due by her to her English, French and Dutch creditors.

The chief feature of the English news has been the publication of decrees of the Cabinet Synod of Thurles, in reference to educational colleges in Ireland. This Synod, we presume, was a convocation of the Catholic bishops of Ireland, who have decided against the Government Colleges for Ireland upon sectarian grounds, at least so it would appear from the remarks of the Liverpool Chronicle, which is considered in some respects, a Catholic publication. It says:—"This is a mournful announcement, over which the statesmen may well ponder; for the blackness of the past is unredeemed by the slightest hope for the future. This difference of creeds, which it was the object of an enlightened patriotism to heal by uniting the youth of Ireland, is to continue, it seems, under ecclesiastical sanction, with all its horrid brood of evils—base passions, and personal and sectarian antipathies. The curse of the past is doomed to hang over the land, and a system of education admirably adapted to the requirements of the country is rudely pushed aside by the prejudices of the Irish bishops."

It is proposed to bestow a testimonial of public approbation upon the floggers of Haynau. On the other hand, the Austrians are going to greet him with all sorts of honors, and to raise him to the rank of a Marshal of the Empire.

Some slight skirmishes had taken place between the Danes and the Holsteiners, but without any result, so that things remain in statu quo.

From California—A Million in Gold Dust.
The steamship Cherokee arrived at New York on the 5th inst. She left Chagres on the 25th of September, and Kingston, Jamaica, on the 28th. She brings \$50,000 on freight, and about \$150,000 in the hands of passengers, of whom there are 130.

The troubles at Sacramento City are over, having been settled by the dispersion of the squatters by the citizens and authorities. Four men had been killed in the melee which took place, two on the part of the citizens and authorities, and two on the part of the squatters.

A Squatter meeting had been held at Marysville, at which a series of temperate and dignified resolutions were passed, declaring the intention of the settlers to occupy and cultivate lands, avoiding townships and surveys in which property had been purchased and claimed. They deny the justness and legality of Mammoth land-grants under old titles, but will abide the decision of proper tribunals and laws of the State.

The reports from the mines appears to be conflicting. But little has been done on the Stanislaus river, in the southern mines, while the bars on the Tuolumne were spoken of in the most encouraging terms. At the Nashville diggings, the average product per man is from eight to ten dollars per day. The Northern mines appear to produce even better than formerly. Both the North and Middle Forks of the American River yield a liberal return to the miner.

On the Yuba, about 14 miles from Marysville, a lump of pure gold, weighing forty pounds, has been found.

News of the death of President TAYLOR reached California on the 24th of August, and on the 31st, funeral solemnities in respect for the memory of the deceased chief magistrate took place at San Francisco.

The Steamship Georgia, from Chagres, and 7½ days from Havana, arrived at New York on the night of the 6th inst., with the mails from San Francisco, 170 passengers, and \$500,000 in gold dust.

There was but little sickness prevailing at Havana at the time the steamer left.

The Governor General of Havana with 5000 troops from Spain, had not yet arrived, but was daily expected.

A grand review of the militia of the Island, by the Governor General, took place on the 23d ult. When the troops were disbanded, they became very indignant at the stringent and ungracious terms which were required of them. A large proportion of their muskets, were in consequence, returned to the armory, totally unfit for use, having been submerged in salt water, and otherwise injured. Cockades which had but recently adorned the brow of the soldier, were, in a number of instances, seen appended to the tails of dogs, and otherwise contemptuously treated.

It is said that upwards of ten millions of dollars per annum will have to be raised to support the additional number of troops, and the other incidental expenses of the Island.

The Georgia brings a full cargo of tobacco, cigars, &c., besides upwards of \$200,000 in gold, in the hands of passengers.

DELAWARE.—The Democrats have just carried the State of Delaware on the Inspectors' election by a majority of 130.

CORRECTION.—Last week, when noticing Mr. STROSS'S contemplated connection with the Gold-Bug Telegraph, we were under the impression that he would enter upon the discharge of his editorial duties on the 7th of this month, and so intimated; in this we were mistaken—we should have said the 7th of November, nearly a month ahead.

We make copious extracts from our Northern exchanges upon the subject of the Fugitive Slave law recently passed by Congress. We are happy to notice the tone pervading the most respectable papers in regard to this matter. Of course, the feelings of the Northern people are opposed to slavery and the recapture of slaves, but while stating this, they acknowledge the necessity, and inculcate the duty, of obedience to the laws. The extract which we make from the New York Herald, is right up and down to the point, and treats with the contempt they deserve all threats of resistance from niggerdom and its abolition allies. The Philadelphia Bulletin is less manly and open, and by its insidious allusions to Canada, shows plainly its wish to see the law evaded; but, at the same time, it honestly acknowledges the absolute necessity of yielding obedience to it in all cases where it is sought to be enforced. These extracts will be found worthy of attention. Our own private opinion is, that comparatively few of the fugitive slaves now at the North—perhaps not more than one-half—will be recovered, especially of those who have been there for a great length of time, but we feel confident that it will put an effectual stop to the evil in future.

JENNY LIND is expected in Charleston, S. C., some time in December. We hope that Col. MILLER will have all his arrangements made to start an extra boat, as it is almost certain that great (m)asses will go on from Wilmington. *Vive la—John Horne.*

Split in the Whig party of New York—Resolutions of the Syracuse Convention.

A Whig State Convention assembled at Syracuse, New York, on the 26th ultimo, for the purpose of making nominations for the different State offices, and, on the 27th, among other resolutions, passed the following, by a vote of 75 yeas to 42 nays:

Resolved, That our thanks are especially due to the Hon. W. H. SEWARD, for the signal ability and fidelity with which he has sustained in the United States Senate those beloved principles of public policy so long cherished by the Whigs of the Empire State, expressed in State and County Conventions, as well as in the votes and instructions of our State Legislature—those principles are eminently national and republican, because they are just and equitable.

Resolved, That the admission of California into the Union, as a State, and with a free constitution, and with our hearty approbation, and as a territorial government is established for New Mexico and Utah, without any prohibitory clause, on the assumption that slavery is excluded by other cause, it is the solemn duty of Congress to extend the Jeffersonian ordinances over these territories on the first indication that slavery or involuntary servitude is likely to be introduced into the territory.

After the vote on the resolutions, Mr. DUER, followed by the Secretaries and 40 delegates, seceded from the Convention, and afterwards organized in RUSSELL'S Hotel. A committee of four was appointed for the purpose of drafting an address to the people of the State. The address sets forth the difference of opinion existing between Mr. SEWARD and some others of the New York Whig delegation, and the necessity of avoiding all allusion to the grounds of that difference, to wit: the slavery question, the further agitation of which must result in the most disastrous consequences to the party. It further says, that instead of pursuing this course, the Convention, by its resolutions, has endorsed the sectional course of Mr. SEWARD, and thereby censured the President and all who did not act with Mr. SEWARD on the slavery question. The address winds up with the following call for a new Convention:

CALL FOR THE WHIG CONVENTION.
The Whigs of the State of New York, who desire to maintain their connection with the Whig party of the United States, and who are opposed to the action of the Convention, recently held in Syracuse, in condemning the course of President Fillmore and his cabinet, and in seeking to renew agitation on the subject of slavery, are requested to elect delegates for a State Convention, to be held in Utica, on the 17th day of October inst. Each county will send as many delegates as it is entitled to elect members of Assembly.

COMMITTEE.
WILLIAM DUER. WM. C. HASBROUCK, FRANCIS GRANGER, DANIEL ULLMAN, JOHN T. BUSH.

The FILLMORE organs throughout the State have refused to endorse the Syracuse nominations, while the Tribune and other prints of that character are warm in their support. It is impossible to tell what the result of this muss may be; the first one will undoubtedly be that New York will follow the example of so many other States, and return to her national Democratic allegiance, and give a large majority for that party at the ensuing election on the first Monday in next month.

The sum of \$800, the price asked for Hamlet, the fugitive slave, recaptured by a lady of Baltimore, has been made up by certain persons in New York, and Hamlet has returned to that City.

NEW MAIL ROUTE.—We find that in our notice of the new mail routes in this district, we omitted one to be established between Clinton, in Sampson Co., and Pittsboro', in Chatham county, via Averyboro', in Cumberland county.

SCHOOL MONEY.—It appears from the Governor's statement, that the following counties are entitled to the sums annexed at the Fall Distribution: Beaufort, \$903; Bladen \$634; Brunswick, \$421; Columbus, \$334; Cumberland, \$1,248; Duplin, \$886; Edgecombe, \$1,210; Greene, \$515; Halifax, \$1,246; Hyde, \$531; Johnston, \$875; Jones, \$364; Lenoir, \$583; Mecklenburg, \$1,496; Martin, \$619; Nash, \$520; New Hanover, \$1,023; Onslow, \$712; Pitt, \$908; Robeson, \$877; Sampson, \$988; Wayne, \$896.

THE TELEGRAPH.—We understand that a letter has been received in town from the managers of the Washington and New Orleans Telegraph Company, expressive of a desire to extend the wires to Wilmington upon the subscription of \$6000 by the citizens of the place. Two thousand of this, we learn, will be taken by the Wilmington and Raleigh Railroad, leaving \$4,000 to be raised by individuals, which we have no doubt will be done.

On the 5th inst., nine Democratic Clerks, were discharged from the Treasury Department, to make room for nine Whigs. No proscription!

Hon. Chester Butler, M. C. from the 11th District of Pennsylvania, died in Philadelphia on the 5th inst., of typhoid fever.

The Democrats, at the late election, gained two members of the State Senate in Maryland, but the Feds. have still a considerable majority in that body.

THE WILMINGTON.—The steamboat WILMINGTON having had her old boiler replaced by a new and very superior one, and having undergone a complete overhauling and refitting in every respect, has again taken her place on the line between this place and Charleston. The WILMINGTON has also been handsomely painted, &c., and makes quite a beautiful appearance.

GLORIOUS DEMOCRATIC TRIUMPH IN MARYLAND.—At the election held in Maryland, on the 2d inst., the Democrats carried the State, electing their candidate for Governor by a majority of 1525. Another North Carolina triumph, almost. What Southern States can the Feds. carry?

NOT A CHILD.—JENNY LIND was born on the 6th of October, 1820, and consequently was 30 years of age on Sunday last. Although well out of her teens, she is still a "child of song."

"LINKED SWEETNESS."—Jenny Lind Sausages are for sale in Boston.

The Catholic Arch Bishop of Canada is dead.

Some thirty or forty recaptures have already been made under the Fugitive Slave Bill, which seems so far, to work very well.

The Central Railroad.

It seems to be the opinion of many that the Charter of this Road will be forfeited, for this reason, viz: that the bill requires \$500,000 to be paid into the hands of the Company Treasurer before the State will be required to do anything and before the work can be commenced. That out of the intention of the stockholders to pay only 5 instead of the 50 per cent, will grow inability to do this and the charter be lost. This the friends of the Road promise to obviate by borrowing the \$500,000 for a few minutes, securing the Charter and handing the money back, or again, calling on the State for its quota, and then representing the work as the half million paid in.

To those opposed to the State's indebtedness of Two Millions, say they will oppose their interposition. They will suffer no such rise as sham payment, and if it be proposed to work it out, they will plead a forfeiture of Charter if the work cannot be done in time to secure it, viz: in 3 years.

So we fear that upon the whole the Central Road may at last fail. We ask for light on the subject so as to make our readers feel easy about it. For our part we indeed apprehend serious difficulty in regard to settling the terms of the bill, as it is known many of the members of the next Legislature will be opposed to almost any satisfactory amendments.

From the Charleston Mercury, of last Monday.

The Wilmington Boats.

The Savannah Georgian of Saturday has the following reply to some remarks which escaped our attention:

"The Editor of the Wilmington Aurora with his characteristic effrontery, makes a most pitiable attempt to sustain the character of the boats on the line between that place and Charleston, against the statements of the passengers as published in the Georgian of the 2d ult."

"The article in the Aurora bears its own contradiction, and we can assure the Editor that it will require more ingenuity than is displayed in his attempt of the 2d inst., to make the travelling public swallow such misrepresentation. 'Wind and weather permitting'—Those who have travelled in the boats all understand the literal translation of this, as far as concerns the Wilmington line, to mean a smooth sea. The insertion was very injudicious on your part, Mr. Editor."

What justification the Georgian has for the not very courteous tone of this paragraph we cannot say, not having seen the Aurora article. But in regard to the matter, it is certainly far from doing justice. When it is remembered that for ten years the Wilmington Company have kept up their long line of communication without profit to themselves, living on the hope of that gradual increase of business which should at last give value to their stock, it seems almost incredible that they should be so ignorant to demand of the public a generous judgment in return,—certainly a just one. It is not true, then, that the condition of the Wilmington boats making their trips, is a "smooth sea." They would make but few, if that were the case. These boats have braved many a storm, and shown their mettle and good management in many hard trials. Moreover, they have met with fewer accidents than any line of boats running the same length of time, that can be named, and in the whole period we believe that not a single life has been lost by them. These facts are of themselves high praise.

It is true that these boats are not of very great power, and consequently, they will not retain their speed very considerably. But it is only such class of boats that can be employed. Neither the Government nor the travelling public would pay the cost of running powerful sea steamers, and if they would, such vessels would not be adapted to a coast navigation, where reasonable speed requires that the course be kept near the land, and that the boats of larger class cannot expect to be employed on this route, and it is by no means certain that their introduction would diminish the amount of failures and irregularities.

What the past shows, is that this line is managed with a singularly fortunate attention to the safety of life and property. In regard to the cost of the boats, exposed to the open sea. For ten years the Company has served the public to the best of its ability, with little or no profits to divide among the shareholders. Now, considering this, we think a disposition to exaggerate its failures and deprive it of its reputation with the public, is the very last feeling that a generous man would cherish.

STATISTICS OF FAYETTEVILLE.—We have already stated the population of this town, by the present census, at 4,502, an increase of 218 over the census of 1840. We have further been informed by E. I. Winslow, Esq., the Magistrate on whom was devolved by the Court the duty of taking the Tax List for the town, that 638 persons have filed tax lists.

55 have failed to file tax lists.
Valuation of Real Estate listed within the Corporation limits, is \$504,696.
Unlisted, as far as known, \$2,590.
Total, \$507,286.

The number of white polls in town, taxable (males from 21 to 45 years of age,) 160.
Female polls, 27.
Slave polls, (both sexes, from 12 to 50 years of age,) 412.

Number of Gold Watches, 183.
Silver do, 120.
Pianos, 44.
Carriages worth more than \$200, 7.
Dogs, 93.

Dividends and Profits subject to taxation, \$17,274 50.
Interest " " " \$10,882 02.
34 persons list Salaries of Fees above \$500.
23 persons list Plate above \$50 value.

Bounty Land Claims.
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 3, 1850.

The Congress of the United States, at its last session, having in a spirit of justice and liberality passed an act "granting bounty land to certain officers and soldiers who have been engaged in the military service of the United States," the President has estimated it no less a privilege than a duty to adopt all the means in his power to give prompt and efficient operation to this beneficent measure.

I deem it proper, therefore, to announce to those entitled to the benefits of the law, that with his sanction I have caused all the necessary forms and instructions to guide claimants in applying for and obtaining their rights to be prepared, and they are now in the hands of the printer. At the earliest practicable moment copies of these papers will be forwarded to each member of Congress, and to the clerk of the court of every county in the United States.

It will be his purpose to administer the law in such a manner as to make it what Congress designed it to be, a bounty to the soldier, and not to agents and speculators.

The claims and the mode of proof have therefore been made as simple as possible, and every facility will be afforded to applicants to establish their just demands. Clerks are now engaged in preparing from the rolls on file certificates of service, in order that those who have not received discharges, or have accidentally lost them, may not be disappointed in obtaining their rights.

The policy of the law in all its provisions is to discourage speculation in the claims of soldiers. The act provides "that all sales, mortgages, letters of attorney, or other instruments of writing going to affect the title or claim to any warrant hereinbefore provided for, made or executed prior to the issue of the patent, shall be null and void, and of no effect, whatever, nor shall such certificate or warrant, or the land obtained thereby, be in any wise affected by, or charged with, or subject to the payment of any debt or claim incurred by such officer or soldier prior to the issuing of the patent."

In his judgment the issue contemplated in the body of the law recited above, is the sale of the land, and the patent, consequently all sales, transfers, assignments, and incumbrances of soldiers' land claims, made before the emanation of the patents, are void, and will be disregarded by the Government. Speculators are therefore admonished that they can acquire no rights by purchase which will be recognized by this department.

I feel it to be my duty also to warn the frank and confiding soldier against the arts and devices of agents who will seek to exaggerate the difficulties of obtaining the land in order to enhance their own charges. The evidence of service exists among the archives of the country. In nine cases out of ten, the only proof required will be the identity of the applicant, of marriage, and widowhood, or heirship. These are facts readily proven, and therefore, the difficulties will, in most cases, be merely nominal. And, to remove even these slight obstacles, and to give more full and complete effect to the munificence of the government, I beg leave, respectfully to recommend to the proper authorities of each county and township to employ a suitable agent, at the expense of the county, to supervise the preparation of the applications and proofs of claimants. The ignorant and unwary would thus be protected from imposition, the poor soldiers from burdens they are not able to bear, and the Government from many embarrassments which may result from the awkwardness of incompetent agents.

In conclusion, I desire to say, that great care will be used to guard against undue preference of one class of applicants over others. With this view, at the proper time, a sufficient number of clerks will be employed to issue the certificates with the least possible delay, so that all may have an equal chance of making advantageous locations.

ALEX. H. STUART,
Secretary of the Interior.

CAPE MAY AND ITS COST.—It is asserted that the total number of visitors at Cape May during last summer, was seventeen thousand. Putting the expense of each at an average of twenty dollars we have a sum total of three hundred thousand dollars expended in three months in that remote part of New Jersey.

The Bounty Land Bill—Forms for obtaining Bounty Land.

For the purpose of co-operating with the beneficent policy of the President, the Republic publishes the forms necessary, under the Bounty Land Law. These forms will, with the military rolls, be deposited in the clerk's office of every county. The evidence of service and discharge being thus accessible, together with the forms necessary to verify the claims, the simplest business knowledge, says the Republic, will be sufficient to fill up and forward an application for a warrant, and to direct, if necessary, the location by the Commissioner of the General Land Office. The following are the "Instructions and Forms" to be observed by persons applying to the Pension Office for Bounty Land, under the late law of Congress:

In every application for the benefit of the act, forsooth, whether made by the surviving officer or soldier himself, or by his widow or minor child or children, a declaration, under oath, must be made as nearly according to the following forms as the nature of the case will admit.